



June 1, 2012

Representative Wayne A. Schmidt, Chairman  
Commerce Committee  
Michigan House of Representatives  
Lansing, MI 48913

RE: HB 5720 – Renaissance Zone Amendment

Honorable Chairman Schmidt,

We are writing on behalf of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance to support the City of Saginaw and Saginaw Future in their efforts to extend the Renaissance Zone for the proposed Hamilton Street Mixed Use Development Project as described in HB 5720.

The Great Lakes Regional Alliance is a partnership formed by the Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Organizations of Bay, Midland and Saginaw Counties. Its board consists of thirty-seven private sector leaders from four counties—Bay, Midland, Isabella and Saginaw. Our mission is to encourage, support and celebrate regional collaborations and initiatives that will improve the economic vitality and quality of life in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

The Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance places a high priority in supporting those efforts and initiatives that strengthen the economic development and quality of life in our region. HB 5720 does just that, by extending the Renaissance Zone benefit, which will result in the construction of the City of Saginaw's first Riverfront Condominium Development project.

Saginaw has experienced some tough challenges, but through leadership and commitment by the public and private sectors, has generated a rebirth along its riverfront corridor and the Downtown and Old Saginaw City area. This mixed use development provides the missing piece to the genesis of a sustainable community by providing an incentive for market rate housing.

Not only will this development provide new housing options for the area, it will also increase the quality of life, spur economic activity for neighboring, local businesses, and attract new residents to the heart of Saginaw..

The Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance strongly encourages your favorable consideration of HB 5720.

Sincerely,

Terence F. Moore  
President